Amendments to the Claims:

DO NOT ENTER /J. M./

1. (Currently amended): A computer-implemented method for restricting access to a software license and for determining an applicable software license based on a ranking, the method comprising:

providing a first encrypted software license associated with a first version of an application on a computing system, wherein the first encrypted software license is associated with a rank, wherein the first encrypted software license is encrypted to allow access to the first encrypted software license through a licensing module and to prevent access to the first encrypted software license not through the licensing module;

receiving a request to access an applicable software license for the first version of the application, wherein the request is received at the software licensing module;

obtaining, at the software licensing module, a product identifier associated with the first version of the application;

based on the obtained product identifier associated with the first version of the application, searching the computing system for other versions of the application that are loaded on the computing system to identify at least a second version of the application;

based on the identified second version of the application, identifying a second encrypted software license associated with a rank, wherein the second encrypted software license is encrypted to allow access to the second encrypted software license through the licensing module and to prevent access to the second encrypted software license not through the licensing module;

comparing the rank of the first encrypted software license to the rank of the second encrypted software license to determine the applicable software license;

decrypting the determined applicable software license for access; and

providing access to the decrypted applicable software license.

~~A system for identifying a license for a first software product of a first type installed on a computer system, the computer system also having at least one other software product of the first type installed on the computer system comprising:~~

~~a first license associated with the first software product installed on the computer;~~